
John Allen Chalk: Personal Correspondence

John Allen Chalk

1-27-1969

From/To: Reeder Oldham (Chalk's reply filed first)

Reeder Oldham

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Recommended Citation

Oldham, R. (1969). From/To: Reeder Oldham (Chalk's reply filed first). Retrieved from <https://scholarworks.harding.edu/hst-chalk-personal/6584>

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**HARDING**
U N I V E R S I T Y

January 27, 1969

Mr. Reeder Oldham
Office of the Registrar
Free-hardeman College
Henderson, Tennessee

Dear Reeder:

You were so thoughtful to write in reaction to our proposed move to Atlanta. My three and one-half years on Herald of Truth radio have been the most challenging of my life. The radio ministry and its responsibilities, however, have only intensified a need I have felt for a long time for further graduate training in the Bible. I believe that this need can best be met, in conjunction with other responsibilities I have to consider to my family, at Columbia Theological Seminary in Atlanta. While there, I will be supported by the Decatur Church of Christ and will be directing their efforts to evangelize the 24 college and university campuses in the Greater Atlanta area.

I made the decision in view of what happened last summer, but not because of what happened during our summer series. I had to look more honestly than I had ever looked before at the fact that Herald of Truth is supported by several "brotherhoods" as well as having to meet the understanding and work with the world view of our twenty elders here at Highland. All of this means that, in order to preach Christ's message as provocatively and as specifically as I believe it has to be preached in our day, as well as to bring along these several brotherhoods or segments of our brotherhood and the Highland elders, requires a kind of understanding of God's word, a depth and a richness that I did not find existing in my life.

I believe very strongly in the things that were said this summer. I believe the Highland elders continue to stand clearly and fully by these convictions as well. My decision, therefore, is one that arises out of my sense of personal need for more preparation. We are living in an exciting, challenging age when men must be prepared to speak God's word specifically, clearly, and emphatically to the current idolatry and ideologies rampant in the world. Please pray for us in our move. Thank you for such a loving, concerned letter.

Your brother,

John Allen Chalk
Radio Evangelist

JAC:hm



Freed-Hardeman College

Office of the Registrar
Telephone 901 / 989-4611

Henderson, Tennessee 38340

January 14, 1969

Mr. John Allen Chalk
Herald of Truth
Highland Church of Christ
Abilene, Texas 79603

Dear John Allen:

I have recently noticed in the papers of your plans to move to the Atlanta area. We have mixed feelings regarding this. We wish you well in your new work. You are eminently qualified to work with today's collegiate. I know the advantages of pursuing a higher education. At the same time, I sincerely regret to see you leave the radio work. You have rendered a real service there. I trust that your summer series has not precipitated this. I sincerely hope the leadership is not retreating from the position that was taken. I have expressed to you personally as I am by this letter my appreciation for what you have done.

Again, we wish you well in your new work. I hope that our paths shall continue to cross occasionally. Do visit us at every opportunity you have.

Sincerely,

Reeder Oldham

RO
jmh